

DRAFT

Manville Fire District – Minutes January 12, 2016

Date of Meeting: Tuesday January 12, 2016

Time of Meeting: 7:00pm

Place of Meeting: St James Church

33 Division Street

Manville, RI 02838

1. Pledge of Allegiance – At 7:00 PM Chairman Lake calls the meeting to order and asks attendees to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Officers-

Present –

Warden James Akers

Chairman Bob Lake

Warden Jerry St Germain

Warden Paul McKeon

Warden Ron McKenna

Also Present - Clerk Lee Lamothe and two taxpayers in attendance.

Absent - Chief Peter Adam due to work.

3. Motion to approve previous meeting minutes

Warden St Germain makes a motion to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2015 regular meeting as they are presented. There is a

second by Warden Akers. Warden McKenna discusses that the presented minutes for # 5. Payment of Bills should reflect that he charged the invoice for the Lincoln Chief's Association to account 5155 fire alarm maintenance for \$1200 and 5140 dues for \$300 to better reflect the cost category. There is a motion to accept the minutes as amended by Warden St. Germain and a second by Warden McKeon. Approved 4-0-1(McKenna abstains)

4. Reports

a. Chairman Report & Communications – Chairman Lake advises that Engine 10 was picked up on Monday. He said the total cost were slightly under the budgeted amount. There will be a full report next month by the Chief.

The VFIS lawyers are taking depositions from former/current board members and the discovery process is progressing for the Desmarais case. We expect to receive communication and updates from them within the next week or two. Warden McKeon says that he met with the lawyer recently for over two hours. He says the lawyer was optimistic about the progress to date and hoped to obtain one final deposition.

The Chairman provided an update on the restroom project: The plumber's scope of work was more expensive than was budgeted but the construction work was less. It should be completed by next month. The Chief has been in contact with someone about doing the epoxy floor in the third bay. He will report back to the board with a recommendation on how and when he would like to proceed with that

work.

The Chairman talks about a comment made by a taxpayer at the annual meeting who claimed we could put a hold on individual drivers licenses' of taxpayers that were late with paying their vehicle taxes. The Chair requested a legal opinion for the record. The lawyer sent a copy of the RIGL's for motor vehicles and an opinion memo. MFD is not allowed to put a hold on any driver's licenses, only vehicle registrations once per year.

There is a motion by Warden McKenna to accept the Chairman's Report. Warden Akers seconds. Approved 4-0-1 (Lake abstained)

b. Treasurer and Tax Collector Report – Treasurer/Tax Collector McKenna says the report is extensive this month. On January 2 he sent out 47 notices to property owners who are past due 2 years or more. He informed them of the new MFD collection policy requires taxpayer s to pay their total balance in full by February 13th. He will send out the required 90 day notices on the third week of February. He also sent out 128 notices to properties who are now delinquent 1 year. Checks have been coming in very slowly this year. We have collected 63.8% of our taxes for 2015. The motor vehicle collection rate is currently 58% while our budget is based on 80% collection. Moving on to the asset sheet he notes that total assets are \$674,959.11. This balance will decrease as we start paying the bills for Engine 10 repairs and the recent capital improvements. The last

sheet which has expenditures to date is current.

Motion by Warden St Germain and seconded by Warden McKeon to approve the Treasurer/Tax Collector report. Warden McKeon comments and discussion followed regarding the account for building repair and maintenance being over budget. The Tax Collector/Treasurer McKenna believes this is because he has not reconciled the cost to this year's budgeted resolution accounts yet. He plans to provide an update once the accounts are entered. Lake calls for vote approved 4-0-1 (McKenna abstains)

Tax Collector McKenna has one abatement for a property which is actually located at 251 Old River Road which is Albion not Manville. The amount of \$811.86 is for two years. A motion made by Warden McKeon and second by Warden St. Germain to approve the abatement as presented. Call for vote, approved 4-0-1(McKenna abstains).

c. Chief's report – Chairman Lake reads the Chief's Report, there were 56 runs – 41 in Manville, 9 in Albion, 3 in N. Smithfield, 2 in Woonsocket, and 1 in Saylesville. We averaged 6.6 firefighters per call. There is no training events in December. Motion made by Warden St. Germain to accept the report. The second by Warden Akers. Call for vote, approved 5-0-0.

5. Payment of Bills

Chairman Lake reads all the bills out loud. The total is \$12,012.24. A motion to approve was made by Warden Akers and seconded by Warden St Germain. Call for vote, approved 5-0-0.

6. Income

Total income was \$130.00 this month. This was for 1 smoke detector inspection and a \$100 rebate from Motorola. A motion was made by Warden Akers and seconded by Warden St Germain to approve the income report as presented. Call for vote, approved 5-0-0.

7. Old Business – All of these items were covered in the Chairman's Report

- a. Attorney Communication – Desmarais Suit Update (see above.)**
- b. Engine 10 Repairs**
- c. Rest Room Repairs**
- d. Tax Collection Opinion Memo**

8. New Business

a. All wardens and attendees were provided copies of the towns Matrix Consolidation Report. The Chairman asked all Wardens the report so the board can discuss at a future meeting. The Chief received the report and asked the Chair to solicit the Boards comments/position on the report.

b. There is a comment by Warden McKenna about the availability of FEMA funded fire department grants and the possibility of MFD receiving some funding for a truck. The Chair advises Chief and Deputy have submitted an application for funding. The Chairman said

two departments in the state received some level of funding for apparatus. The Chair tabled this item until the Chief could provide an update.

b. Annual Meeting Venue - The Chair reports that he asked the Manville Sportsman Club if the Annual Meeting could be held there on September 13th, 2016 as an alternative to the Fire Station. This was request discussed at the recent Club meeting and voted on by the gun club membership to reserve the facilities from 4 pm through midnight for our use.

There is a motion by Warden St Germain to hold the annual meeting at The Manville Sportsman Club on September 13, 2016, a second by Warden McKenna to approve the change of venue. Warden McKeon why should we move the meeting? The Chairman advised the Sportsman Club is fully accessible, has better parking and a more comfortable atmosphere for the meeting. The Chief prefers meeting be held away from the station because attendees will be more comfortable. Lake calls for a vote, approved 5-0-0

9. Public Comment

Paul Armstrong asks about the quarterly fire alarm bill and why the cost seems high? Chairman Lake says that we will have to check with the Chief and report back to the board and he.

10. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn made by Warden St. Germain at 7:35 PM, second by Warden McKenna. Chair calls for vote, approved 5-0-0.

Date Agenda Posted SOS: 01/4/2016

Date of Meeting: 01/12/2016

Posted: SOS, MFD Station, Manville Post Office, Town Hall

Draft Minutes posted on SOS: 01/26/2016

Minutes submitted to/ and approved by Board:

Approved Minutes posted on SOS: